

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the title please insert

--Cross-Reference to Related Application

A1 This application is a continuation of prior application Serial No. 09/597,179 filed on June 20, 2000, which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/078,946 filed on May 14, 1998, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 22-26 and 28-56, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 57-90, as follows.

--57. A guide wire comprising:

an elongate core including a distal portion, the core composed of a nickel-titanium alloy;
a coil composed of a second material, the coil surrounding the core and terminating proximal to the distal portion of the core; and
a polymeric material disposed on the distal portion of the core.

58. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil surrounds a portion of the core near a proximal end of the core.

59. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil surrounds a proximal end of the core.

60. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil extends along the core from a portion of the core near a proximal end of the core to proximal of the distal portion of the core.

61. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the second material comprises stainless steel.

62. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the second material comprises a precipitation hardenable alloy.

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